

Student Congress President-Elect Ashok Regmi is full of joy.

Election attracts more students this year

by Diana Vaptzarova

Student Congress elections last week attracted many ambitious students. Ashok Regmi is the new president of Student Congress. In his speech during the debate, he invited all students to unite in order to solve their problems. He said he was impressed by the other candidates and their ambitious ideas.

"Do you have any idea when these demands will be fulfilled," Regmi said. "They will be fulfilled only when you go to Bryant Hall and pinch the administration. By hook or crook you have to pinch them."

Bryan Barrett, next year's sophomore class president,

also urged students to become involved in student life. He said he is willing to hear what students' problems are and work hard towards helping them find a solution.

The other winners of the elections are as follows: Aurora Lee, vice-president of Student Congress; Hiromasa Yamaoka, speaker of the House; Hosik Choi, Senior class president; Beylul Solomon, Junior class vice president; Christopher M. Turcotte, Sophomore class vice president; Carlos Aponte, School of Business senator; Seemanti Borkotoky, School of Business co-senator; Ian McKenzie, School of Dental Hygiene senator; Bridget M. Baird, School of Education and Human Resources co-senator; Nobuya Yoshizawa, School of General Studies senator; John Musser, School of Science, Engineering and Technology senator; Tadakimi Tomita, School of Science, Engineering and Technology senator; Harunori Mochizuki, Commuter Student Association president; and last but not least - Alejandro Gonzalez, Residence Hall Association president.

The question is, was the students' enthusiasm provoked by the inevitable trait of humans to be powerful or a simple will to contribute to the well being of UB students?

Let us take a look at two

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Student leadership awarded

The Scribe Co-editor Nikolai Kralev receives the President's Award, Student Congress Vice President Toyohiro Miyata gets the Dean's Award

by Lucas Mc Cloud

On Tuesday, April 28, students and administrators alike gathered in the Tower Room of the Arnold Bernhard Center for the 18th Annual Student Leadership Awards Ceremony.

Over sixty people attended to recognize the achievements of students for the 1997-1998 school year.

The awards ceremony was a gathering of the most dedicated students in UB for the current academic year, along with the faculty and administrators who supported them.

Students were formally recognized for the leadership abilities in all areas of discipline, not just academics, or athletics. Students throughout UB were nominated by faculty and administrators to the Awards Selection Committee for their hard work and commitment towards bettering UB.

The selection committee was composed of an administrator or faculty member from each of the different areas in UB. It consisted of Roxie Ray, Joe Marrone, Edina Oestreich, Jason Li, Angela Santiago, Lynette Wood, Bruce Webster, Cindy Howard and Robert

Todd. The awards ceremony itself was hosted by Professor John Nicholas, who entertained the audience with his anecdotes and short stories.

One of the most touching moments of the ceremony was when Mr. and Mrs. Schweizer had their son, Robert Schweizer, honored through the dedication of a new award in his name.

Matthew M. Reed, director of the Wheeler Recreation Center, gave a moving speech of Robert's time here at UB,

which brought a standing round of applause from the audience.

There were many different awards given out, ranging from outstanding freshman to outstanding volunteer to outstanding senior student. The awards were - Sarah Warfield, Rookie of the Year; Ashok Regmi, Outstanding Student Organization and Alumni Award; Tracey Scharer, Scholar-Athlete of the Year;

See Awards, page 4



Toyohiro Miyata received the Dean's Award from Dean of Students Janet Merritt

Class of 1998 all ready to walk

by Puneet Batra

On May 17, mixed feelings of grief and joy will overcome UB's 88th commencement ceremony, as 918 applicants will walk the ramp, dressed appropriately in caps and gowns.

The ceremony will honor

all those with expected graduation dates between December 1997 and December 1998.

The ceremony is held to honor the achievements of the graduates and to bid them farewell.

Among the 918 being honored, a whopping six hundred and eighteen students are applicants for a Masters Degree in business administration, or the sciences.

The second largest chunk of students comprises applicants for a Baccalaureate Degree, followed by those aiming for an Associates Degree in the arts and/or sciences.

Applicants for the Chiropractic program, the Educational Doctorate and 6th Year Education Degrees follow behind those groups.

Before they can graduate however, the seniors are required to go through some necessary formalities besides

studying for their finals. They will not be granted a degree unless they have settled all their bills and given a green signal by the Bursar.

Those on financial aid or a scholarship must also attend a financial aid exit interview counseling session as required by the federal government.

After that, the student must be cleared by the Health Center as being in measles compliance, and the student's current address verified with the Registrar, she or he is all set.

Those graduating will leave behind a UB very different from what it was when they first came here. A very significant change has been the steep increase in the number of students.

According to Franck Ajisegbe, a mass communications major, "The student population has grown in recent

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News

Asphalt plant protests continue, but no decision yet

by Yasuko Uchihori

Opponents of the asphalt plant proposals gathered to have a short rally in front of Mandeville Hall on May 2. Of those who marched with chants and signs, more than 30 were UB students, along with a few local residents.

All of the protesters took a clear position against the two asphalt plant proposals, which are scheduled to be voted on in a public hearing on May 5 at City Hall. "Hey-Ho, the asphalt plant must go," Student Congress President Justin Harding and the rest of the protesters shouted.

Ashok Regmi, president-elect of Student Congress for the next academic year, Aurora Lee, vice-president-elect, and Hiromasa Yamaoka, speaker of the House-elect, all expressed their concerns about UB's position in the asphalt plant issue by participating in the rally.

Regmi spoke and encouraged the people gathered by saying, "We, UB students and the residents in South End, let's fight against the asphalt plant proposals."

Harding was then interviewed by Channel 12, a TV station that the President of the Sea Side Village Association, Paul Boucher, called upon. This issue has grown considerably over the past few months in intensity.

Nearly 50 UB students joined with residents in the South End and East End to protest, on the steps of City Hall, just before the public hearing on

April 27.

Nearly 600 people participated in the hearing, which was put at the very end of the agenda by the members of Planning and Zoning Commission.

Students and residents were irate as they were forced to wait for nearly four hours before learning that voting and presentation of the issue would be postponed.

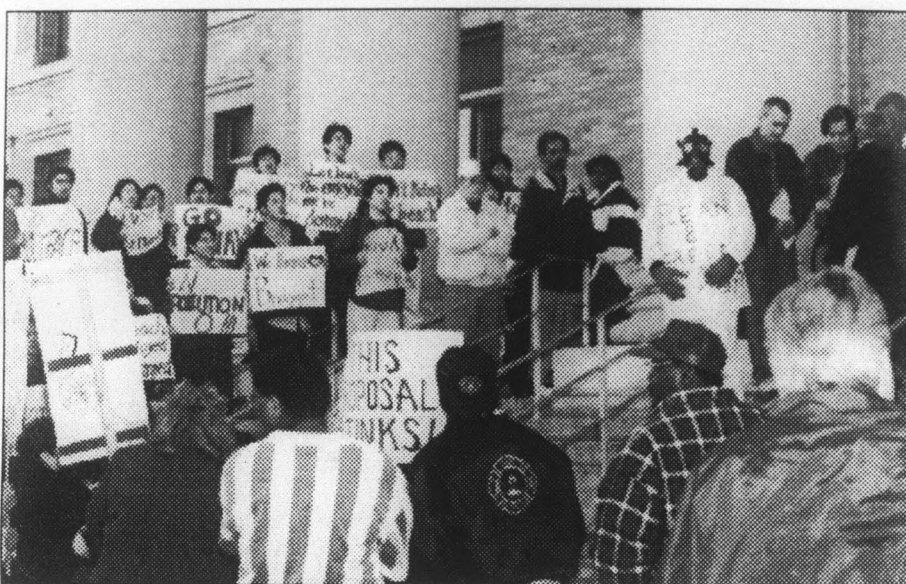
On May 5, the primary agenda will be to resolve the East End Asphalt Plant proposal, and time-permitting, city officials hope to also come to a decision on the South End Asphalt Plant, which will be closer to the campus.

Both plants will again be protested, but the issue on both has been sitting for a few months and action will likely take place soon.

Residents, as well as UB students, hope that Bridgeport Mayor Joe Ganim will participate in the decision as he is known to have taken a stand against Asphalt Plant construction in the South and East Ends.



The protests against an asphalt plant planned near campus continued, with much involvement of UB students. No decision has been made yet.



The Scribe

will follow the developments
with the asphalt plant project, and
will inform you in its first issue
next semester.

Graduation, from page 1

years, but quality does not lie in number. Until the administration stops shying away from the problems and controversies this school shall never progress."

The class of 1998 could be called the epitome of cultural diversity and variety. Out of the 918 students who have applied for graduation, 361 are international students from all over the world.

The fraction of international students among the undergraduate population is an amazing 127 out of 218. This amounts to an amazing 58 percent, which is an astonishing figure compared to colleges and universities all over the nation.

However astonishing the percentage of international students at UB may be, the most popular majors chosen by undergraduate students are also something worth taking a look at. Among all undergraduates graduating this year, dental hygiene is the most popular major.

One may wonder whether this fact is responsible for the numerous flyers seen around campus requesting students to come in and get their teeth cleaned. Completing the list of the top nine majors this year are:

- Finance
- Elective Studies
- Marketing
- Human Service
- International Business
- Computer Engineering

- Mass Communication
- Accounting

Everyone at UB will definitely miss this diverse group of interesting people. We wish them the best of luck as they step out into the world and make UB proud.

The UB Alumni Association hopes that the new graduates will stay in touch and help make the alumni community even bigger and more diverse.

The Scribe

congratulates

all 1998 graduates

and wishes them best of luck
in their future endeavors

A special 'Thank You' to those who contributed to our newspaper at some point in their college life.

We hope the experience with us was rewarding.

Think of us, and keep in touch!

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SCUBA hosts international poetry reading

by Ikenna Emehelu

The Social Cerebral society of UB in America, SCUBA, delighted UB poetry lovers at a special poetry reading held as part of the club's fifth anniversary celebration.

The event was held on Wednesday, April 29, at the University gallery, and it was a unique showcase of poems from all over the world.

The organization of the event was simple but unique. Poems by foreign poets were obtained and read, first in the language they were originally written in, and then in English.

This was done so that the audience could listen to the rhyme and rhythm of the original pieces and then determine whether the poem lost some of its beauty in the English translation.

Surrounded by the enchanting artworks on display at the art gallery, the thirty-five guests at the event were treated to renditions of poems in Hebrew, French, Portuguese, Chinese, Japanese, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Bulgarian, and German, quickly followed by their English translations.

The audience, divided almost evenly between students and faculty, generally cheered the melody inherent in most of the original versions of the poems but were moved by the English versions, which they could understand.

The club also used the opportunity to honor UB alumna Emilia Sherifova, a former member of SCUBA, who came all the way from New York to participate in the anniversary celebrations.

Prof. Lamont Thomas produced what was arguably the best performance of the night. Cor Cin Tan had just finished reading a Chinese poem and Professor Thomas came in to read the English version.

Everybody in the audience broke out in laughter when he turned up with a half-empty bottle of wine. It turned out that the poem, rightly titled "Bringing in the Wine," called on everybody to forget his or her worries in alcohol and be drunk forever.

SCUBA President, Melisa Cehajic who directed the activities that night thanked the audience for coming at the end. Cehajic, who is a senior, is a published poet.



A team of five students presented UB at the annual competition of the American Advertising Federation in Boston on April 26.

This year, the students had to create an advertising campaign for Hallmark. Advisor to the project was Dr. Rod Carveth.

From left: Melisa Cehajic, Sharon Loh, Naiden Stoyanov, Diana Vaptzarova and Linda Allen.

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Campus Life

Awards, from page 1

Thomasina Kone, Martin Luther King Jr., Service Award; Jen Svelnys and Michael Savage; Outstanding Commuter Student Awards; Anika Hijazi, Outstanding Resident Student Award; Alejandro Gonzalez, UB Spirit Award; Harunori Mochizuki, Keep UB Beautiful Award; Sharada Narayana, Yasir Al Saffar Bridge Award; Sanjeev Karmacharya, Selma Rooney Volunteer Service Award; Alicia Davis, Outstanding Student Employee Award; Dalia Hernandez, Outstanding Student in a Supporting Role; Lucas Mc Cloud, Shining Knight Award; Toyohiro Miyata, Dean's Award; and Nickolai Krale, President's Award.

In addition to the named awards, there were leadership-recognition certificates given to all of the Student Congress members, as well as the club presidents.



Memorable moments from the Student Leadership Award Ceremony:

Above: Master of Ceremony Dr. John Nicholas whispers to Prof. Greenlough, who presented the Rookie of the Year award.

Below: Dean of Admissions Suzanne Wilcox with Lucas Mc Cloud, winner of the Shining Knight award.



Correction

An article in the last issue of The Scribe about the UB Alumni Association incorrectly reported that the association has more than 2,600 valid names and addresses of UB graduates. The actual number is 26,000. We apologize for the mistake.

UBand rocks UB

by Geetha Tharmaratnam

The three-member band, UBand, performed many hit songs to a crowd at Once Upon a Coffee Shop on Saturday, April 25. They had the crowd of forty-five singing along with them, and sometimes it was unclear as to who was performing.

Shai Bar-Nefy, a Computer Science major from Israel, played the guitar. Gustavo Mori, a Peruvian Math major, played the keyboard, and Nemanja Mijic, a Yugoslavian Finance and Accounting major, played the drums.

Alongside popular Beatles songs like "We Can Work it Out," and "Hey Jude," they also played some songs done by Oasis, U2, Queen, and Nirvana. A pleasant surprise was when they sang not only in English, but Spanish and Hebrew too.

When the group got together last semester, they used to "carry books along when playing." The President of UBand, Mijic, also said, "there is a large amount of caring and planning that goes towards practice, plus hard physical effort."

Well, their work more than paid off when the audience called for more at the end of the concert. This resulted in an impromptu Karaoke night.

The musical talent hidden here at UB was uncovered slightly as members of the audience went up and performed on the guitar, keyboard, the drums, and the vocals. This was after the band had protest-



UBand performed hit songs to a crowd at Once Upon a Coffee Shop.

ed and said, "Sorry guys, we do not know anymore!" Obviously unsatisfied with this, the crowd, together with the band, put on a performance that could put any professional group to shame. Gustavo Fayad, a member of the audience, said, "I love these guys!"

This group is officially registered with Student Congress as a club, but with some of them graduating soon, they need new members to take over and to develop it further.

One issue that the band members agree on is that it would be very nice if the university could equip a room with an amplifier and microphones so that people could go there to practice. This would be a way of discovering and displaying talent here on campus. And who knows, the next U2 may be from UB!

Academic Excellence and Leadership Scholarship Committee

invites

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Waldermere Hall

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Counseling sessions will be held on Tuesday, May 5, at 2:30 p.m. in Carlson 252, and again on Friday, May 8, at 10:30 a.m.

Sessions will begin promptly at the times indicated.

No appointment is required.

Any student who does not attend an exit interview session will have his/her academic transcript frozen until compliance is met.

Send your letter to the editors

at:

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Campus Life

Election, from page 1

examples. The first one is Lucas Mc Cloud – this year's president of the freshman class. "I did not have any set goals other than doing what is best," said Mc Cloud in an interview.

As the president of the freshman class, Mc Cloud wanted to get to know the students better and present their concerns to the administration. He did not write any official letters, but he voiced students' concerns to administrators during both formal and informal meetings.

Mc Cloud found that what students were most worried about was the condition of the residence halls. Although he did not direct his concerns to David Oestreicher, and in fact, he has never met personally with the Director of

Residential Life and Judicial Affairs, but he has spoken to the RAs and told them about students' problems. When asked whether noticeable improvements were made, Mc Cloud replied, "Not exactly." However, he said he believes that higher goals can be attained through the improvement of "little things."

This year, Mc Cloud has been elected Senator of the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Again, he has not set any specific goals and since he was the only candidate for the position, he did not speak at the debate. The new senator plans to coordinate his goals with Thomas Juliusburger, director of the department, and with the newly elected co-senator, Yuko Kitagawa.

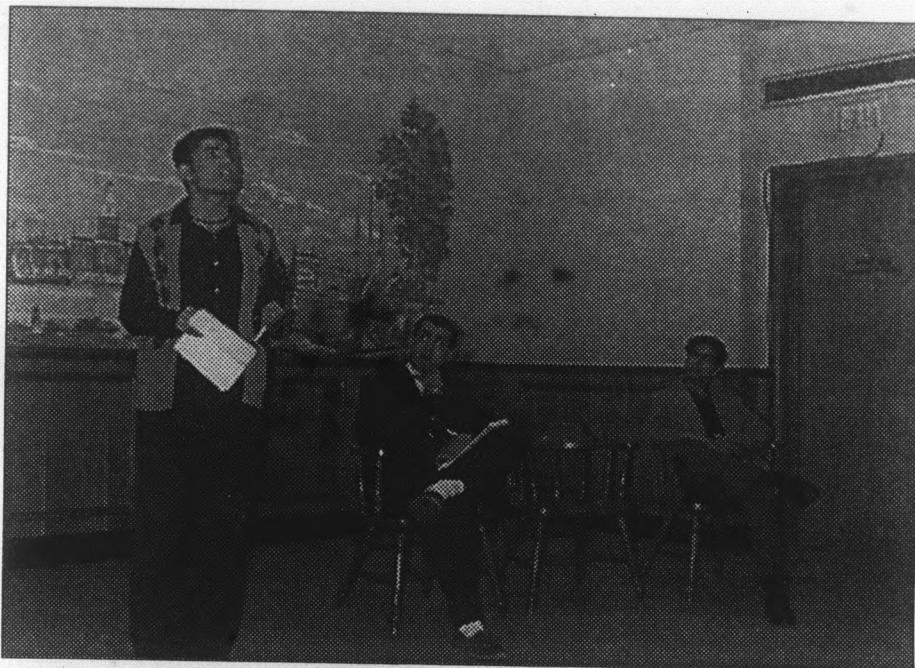
According to Mc Cloud, his

achievement for the year was, "getting to know what Student Congress is about," and preparing himself for future activities at UB. He was one of the founders of the Coffee Shop, whose goal is to provide students with a place to relax during weekends.

The second example is Justin Harding, president of student congress. Last year, he did not want to set any unattainable goals and his only clear goal was passing a fair budget. This goal was triggered by the previous year's Student Congress inefficiency to pro-

vide students with a set budget until February of 1997.

Justin believes he was 100 per cent successful in achieving his goal. Last week, Congress passed two amendments to the constitution which ensure that the "Student Activities Budget Committee shall be the Joint Student Congress in session voting on the proposed Budget of the President of Student Congress," and that the budget should be voted on as the "first order of business," after the appointment of the CFO (Chief Financial Officer).



A moment from the debate with the candidates for Student Congress President



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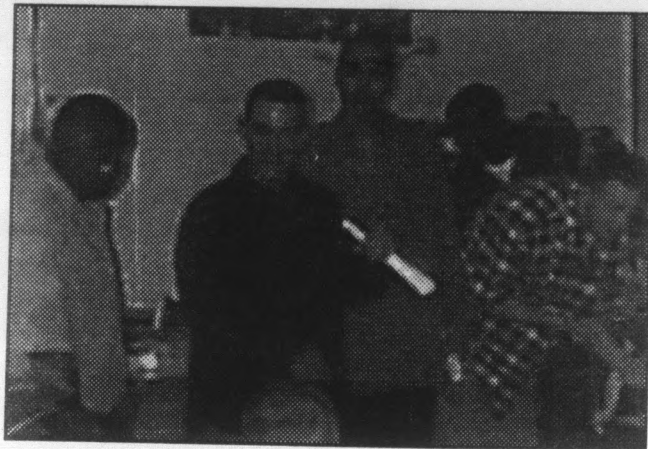
by Seemanti Borkotoky

Spring Fling '98, sponsored by the Student Center Board of Directors, SCBOD, started off with a bang on Friday, May 1. The first event for the weekend was the Lip Sync contest, which was held at Marina Dining Hall. It had five participants and the \$100 award went to the Pi Psi Omega Fraternity who performed the Puff Daddy song, "Benjamin's."

The act consisted of six fraternity members and included a hilarious appearance by James Rowe dressed in a blonde wig and women's clothes.

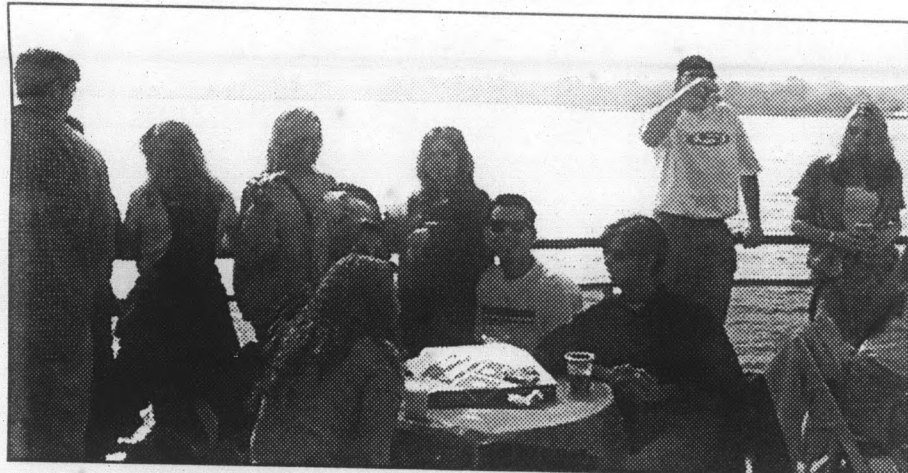
On May 2, two bands rocked the Faculty Dining Room at the Student Center. Four UB Naturopathic students, who make up the band Brick, performed hard rock and blues for two

hours. The second band, Horsewater, which includes UB graduate Frank Derico, played mainly alternative and heavy metal music for three hours. Towards the end of the show, one could



see excited band members throwing pieces of their drumsticks into the audiences. The event was BYOB and was attended by about fifty people. President of SCBOD, Linda Allen said that she was happy with the way the weekend started and hoped that everyone had fun.

Cruise to nowhere



by Arman Gevorgyan

On Sunday, May 3, SCBOD's annual Cruise to Nowhere attracted approximately 90 students. The cruise started and ended at the Westport Marina. Buses from Mandeville Hall departed at 4:30 p.m. to take the students on their three-hour tour.

The participants quickly filled the decks of the ship. One half of the lower deck provided sitting areas, while the other half served as a dance floor. If one wanted to get a drink or watch out for icebergs, the place to be was on the upper deck.



It would be an understatement to claim that during the journey, the passengers did not starve to death. The pizza was so plentiful that there were leftovers, which the students were invited to take along. As far as the drinks, one could get anything from plain pineapple juice to a sophisticated Sea Breeze mix.

The fun was complete with two DJs, playing mostly techno and R&B. A crowd of those who liked "to move it, move it" stomped on the floor and sang along. Finally, in the guys versus girls competition, the gang performed the title song to "Grease."

The cruise got some participants so yearning to become sailors that right after the safe return to the solid ground, they plunged back into the water, to the delight of the public. Then, everyone was invited back onto the buses and presented with a free Spring Fling '98 mug.

The cruise was sponsored by SCBOD, and only cost students \$14 if they were under twenty-one, or \$17 if they were over twenty-one and wanted to drink.

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Is The Scribe the problem?

The newly elected Student Congress President called for the downfall of The Scribe in his election debate. He roared that, "The Scribe is not the truth!" He bellowed that, "We, as students need to get our voices heard by administration." However, when he said that, "We need to substitute The Scribe with a magazine that gets the truth out," we couldn't keep quiet.

The Scribe is fully staffed by students who willingly give up their spare time to chase down stories, copy edit and do layout far into the night. Often, the night before the paper is to come out, the staff pull an all-nighter. Now, I ask you, is this the normal attitude

of people who are bent on putting out what is not the "truth?" Considering that no one is being paid, it is hardly worth the effort!

As to Mr President's issue, the Scribe does believe in the First Amendment and as such publishes every letter to the editor that it receives. So instead of complaining that The Scribe is not publishing the "truth," next time, try getting it down on paper and to a member of staff. It would be very nice to hear from the students. Oh, do not worry about grammar, we will check it for you if you want us to. After all, the "truth" is not always grammatically perfect!

300 voters on question

The election results are in and we have a new president and a new hope for campus improvement.

These last elections boasted a 100+ more student vote than the previous election, a sign that more students are becoming politically aware to campus situations not just academically surviving.

We even had a few good bashes on campus; Caleinte, the 70's party III or IV, and the dancing Cruise to Nowhere. The Halloween Party and Haunted House weren't too bad either.

So if you can imagine UB as a dead patient on board the Star Trek enterprise in the sick bay with Dr. "Bones" McCoy running his tricorder over the body, one can imagine the vital sign monitors slowly bobbing upwards and reviving; more students voting, parties improving, academics climbing - thanks to our AEL scholars, and the largest new incoming freshman class ever!

Elections are a good gage at the awareness and quality of students towards campus life. Although over three hundred people came out and cast their vote nearly 700 students did not come out to vote. This is a big problem. It means 700 students will have decisions made that will directly effect their campus life and they had no say in who was elected.

Is there an elite popular group on

campus taking control? Or are spirit-filled unificationists plotting to take control of student congressional power? What's really going on?

If we look at the Presidential race, did students vote for Ashok for his ideas of change by protest, a real student voice in a newsletter, and rearranging SCBOD or because he wasn't a unificationist.

On the contrary did some students just vote for Farzad because he was a unificationist not even considering he had a three point plan he wanted to implement based on his previous experience as Treasurer.

Ali Tirmizi, even though, he withdrew during his debate speech might have been the most sincere candidate. He wasn't running on a ticket of popularity like Ashok and he wasn't running on the basis of a religion like Farzad.

In his speech he implored students to vote for the candidates who have good ideas, who sincerely want to improve UB, not their own resume, and who can get the job done. But did we the 300 voters vote in this manner with that attitude?

Once again, elections are a good way to gage the number of active and concerned students. Furthermore, through who was elected and the attitudes, beliefs, and will of this alive student population can be gagged.

Student Center Board of Directors (SCBOD),
Senior Class, Omega Phi Alpha and Baking Club

Wisteria Ball

Friday, May 8

9 p.m. -- 1 a.m.

Price: \$3 singles, \$5 couples

Student Center Social Room



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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

INVITES ALL STUDENTS TO

"FINALS COFFEE BREAK '98"

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1998

8:30 P.M.

BODINE, BARNUM AND SEELEY LOUNGES

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CONGRATULATES

THE CLASS OF 1998

ALL GRADUATING STUDENTS

ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

THE ANNUAL

ALUMNI/GRADUATES CLAM BAKE

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1998

5:30 P.M.

WALDEMERE LAWN

AND PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH WITH US

Sports

Softball team closes out '98 season

by Sara Warfield

On April 27 the Purple Knight softball team wrapped up the 1998 season with a double header against Southern Connecticut University. After a disappointing loss in the first game, the Knights regained their composure and fought back in the second game. Despite freshman Valerie Steen's aggressive pitching and freshman Cheryl Mostowi's spectacular diving stops, the Knights fell just short, losing 0-3.

The loss capped a season of highs and lows but, most importantly, it capped a season of hard work, dedication, and learning.



The team was dominated by several freshmen who made huge contributions.

Third baseman Jaclyn Platt ranked fourth on the team in batting and put together a seven-game hitting streak during the season. Pitcher Valerie Steen ranked third in batting and dished out seven RBI's. Second baseman Mindy Scharer led the team in doubles and ranked second in batting.

Scharer also played excellent defensively, said Coach Deb Larson. "She played out of her position and stepped up to do an outstanding job."

Larson also applauded the efforts of two walk-on freshmen, Latecia Santos and Tamara Bronson, saying they worked very hard in practice, refining their offensive and defensive skills and going on to produce game-winning hits and runs.

These outstanding freshmen were led by three outstanding seniors who also served as team captains.

Marcia Palmeter has been a starting pitcher and a huge asset to the Knights all four of her years at UB. Catcher Tracey Scharer, who recently received the Scholar-Athlete Award at the Leadership Awards Banquet, has been honored with All-NECC status in her career at UB. First

baseman Laurie Geerds was an active leader on the field, ranking first in bat-

New Haven and Dowling College, ranked fifth and sixth in the region,



ting with nine RBI's and six doubles.

"Their dedication, commitment, hard work, and love for the game will be greatly missed," Larson said of her senior leaders.

The Knights finished their season at 5-26-1. This record, however, hardly reflects this young team's play that was marked by several near-wins.

"We just fell short which was very frustrating," said Tracey Scharer.

The Knights posted two extra-inning losses against the University of

respectively. They also kept in step with C.W. Post College, a team ranked in the top ten nationally, losing a close game 0-3.

"Beyond the reflection of our record," said Laurie Geerds, "we played very well together and made some great things happen on the field."

The future looks bright for the softball team. Larson plans to bring in seven new players to compliment her returning freshmen, including some junior college recruits.

State of the Campus Address

Growing pains is the most accurate description of campus I've heard at present. This is a good problem the new Student Congress will challenge to put into perspective in the upcoming 1998-99 semester. Indeed the years; 1989, 1990, and 1991 were the darkest period for the future of the university. At that time we didn't know if a future semester would ever take place. This state of the campus address, I hope, can become a new tradition, an opening of communication between the Board of Trustees, Administration and campus population. Indeed, I hope and urge President-elect Regmi to make it a once a semester address.

Through these addresses future Presidents can create a history of major events as seen by the student government - a record that future student administrations can use to continue the campus renaissance of UB. And if there's to be a real revolution of academic, social, and residential matters it must begin with you, the student, hand in hand with your elected representatives. Just as an organized Southend Ganim - we too, an organized student body, through dialogue and protest can make change for a better UB campus, a change that can retain students, not create complaint and transfer students.

We must be successful. The level of UB's reputation will directly affect the marketability of our degree. So please everyone in the spirit of a JFK's words "Ask not what your nation (campus) can do for you but, ask what can you do for your nation (campus)" - graduate and degrees. After all it is your degree and your future, as well.

Since 1990-'91 academic semester when the PWPA began its financial support there have been seven new student governments: Scott Leigh Miller & Steph Koprowski '91-'92, the only two term president Jeff Lemberg '92-'94 with his '92-'93 VP Marland Zanders and '93-'94 VP Tish Pizarro, Roshan Thiran & Jorge Benitez '94-'95 International Party, Nickolay Markov & Dmitri Trudov '95-'96, Franck Agjisbe & Anuj Schroff '96-'97, and the incumbents Harding & Miyatta '97-'98 welcoming Ashok Regmi & Aurora Lee -our new '98-'99 student administration. So what is there to say about the last seven years? What can we conclude from this last academic year? President Rubenstein has come up with the best description, we are still here and now have "growing pains." What are we to do with these growing pains?

The year in a brief review: our current administration began with three simple goals. The first pass a fair budget, the second demonstrate excellence, and the third through demonstrating excellence receive more funding for the new student congress administration. Excellence was to be achieved through club empowerment, campus revival, and community outreach.

Our Congress did set-up a very clear Budget and allocation process. Seed money, allocation for traditional events, and a general fund for creative ideas are now a part of the Constitution and every club's right. This budget did empower clubs who met regularly, attended the House meetings, turned in receipts, and put on campus events. Therefore, the first part in our quest for excellence was achieved. The second part, campus revival, was aimed at giving SCBOD at separate budget to put on the traditional campus events. In short, I felt these two \$5000.00 allocations we gave to SCBOD were not used to the satisfaction of the student population and I hope the new congress can revamp this situation. The third step in search for excellence, community outreach, was achieved through the International Festival, Freshman Coffee House, Asphalt protest, the Cruise to Nowhere and the most incredible party of the year Caliente!!! If I were to give a grade to the three measures of excellence it would be a B+. This grade will directly affect our third goal to receive more funding for Student Congress activities. One of our last duties is to petition for more funding. Currently, we couldn't fund a yearbook, campus literary magazine, new bulletin boards on campus, and several smaller requests from clubs who were excellent members of the house. One example, is the Korean Student Ass.

There are many more issues; the Residence Halls - especially Seeley, Graduate Students rights, the negative UB press image, improving UB Athletics, AEL scholarship issue, the Judicial Process, the finalization info technology & computer labs, language in the Key to UB, the Stop sign on Park Ave, improvements to the Library & Wheeler, the Radio station and last but not least moving Naya Kolarova's seat next to our Advisor Rev. Snyder!!! These issues were raised and still remain to have final action passed on them. It is these and many more growing pains we leave to President-elect Ashok Regmi and his crew!

Congratulations to all graduates. Have a great summer!!!
Sincerely, Justin Harding President '97-'98